

DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION

14215 RIVER ROAD

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**AGENDA ITEM #8**

March 10, 2000

To: Delta Protection Commission

From: Margit Aramburu, Executive Director

Subject: CalTrans Proposal to add Guardrails on Highway 160 in Sacramento and Yolo Counties
(For Commission Information Only)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT:

CalTrans is planning to install guardrails within the existing right-of-way on the water side of Highway 160 from Courtland south to Sherman Island (where the Highway leaves the levee). The metal beam guardrail would be in 10 locations, but would essentially be installed along the 22 mile stretch of highway (see attached map).

CalTrans has evaluated accidents in the period Jan 1995 through December 1997, and found there were 49 reported accidents in which vehicles ran off the highway. There were 6 fatalities and 38 injuries. Thirty of the accidents occurred on the river side of the highway; of these, half occurred on the outside of a horizontal curve.

CalTrans proposes to leave wide areas for parking for bank fishing.

CalTrans processed a categorical exemption from California Environmental Quality Act for the proposed project in February 1999 (Section 15301: ...operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public...structures, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that previously existing...(c)...existing highways...(d) restoration or rehabilitation of deteriorated or damaged structures, facilities...to meet ...current standards of public health and safety...(f) Addition of safety or health protection devices for use during construction of or in conjunction with existing structures, facilities...)

LOCAL ISSUES:

At a meeting with Reclamation District representatives and local landowners, the following issues were raised:

- Loss of access for service of irrigation pumps;

- Loss of access for levee maintenance from the land;
- Restrictions to transport of agricultural equipment on the highway;
- Adverse aesthetic impacts to a designated scenic roadway from installation of the guardrail;
- Loss of shoulder area for emergency vehicles in the event of an accident;
- Possible increased speed by cars on the highway;
- Loss of shoulder for bicyclists on highway;
- Loss of shoulder parking for anglers.

A key issue is possible interference with levee maintenance from the land. For example, Grand Island, RD 3, performed maintenance from the land at 30 sites in 1999.

PUBLIC MEETING:

A public meeting on the proposed project has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 29, 2000 at the Jean Harvie Community Center in Walnut Grove from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m.

BRIEFING BEFORE DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION

CalTrans staff will brief the Commission on the status of the proposed guardrail installation project.

LAND USE AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PRIMARY ZONE OF THE DELTA:

Utilities and Infrastructure Finding F-8: Surface transportation in the Delta serves the agricultural operations, transporting products out the Delta to markets, and allows import of supplies and equipment. Other users of the Delta transportation network include regional trucking, regional commuters, recreational visitors, and local traffic within the Delta. Many existing Delta roads are historic, narrow, and nonconforming to present design standards. Drivers need to be aware of hazards and unique challenges that these roads pose.

Utilities and Infrastructure Policy P-5: Surface transportation in the Delta can be dangerous and congested. Roads within the Delta shall be maintained to serve the existing agricultural uses and supporting commercial uses, recreational users, and Delta residents. Where possible, commuter traffic and through traffic should be directed to surrounding highways and freeways, or minimized through programs which promote carpools, buses, or trains.

Utilities and Infrastructure Recommendation R-5: CalTrans should designate, through appropriate signage, those roadways which are used to transport agricultural equipment and other slow-moving vehicles.

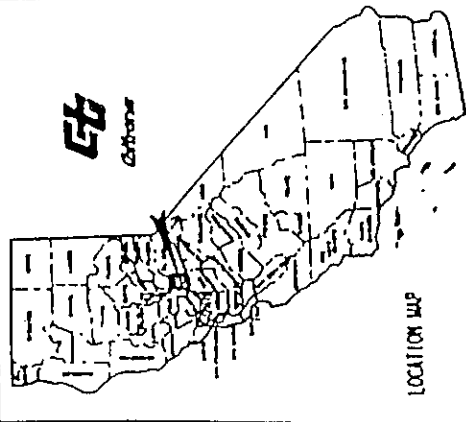
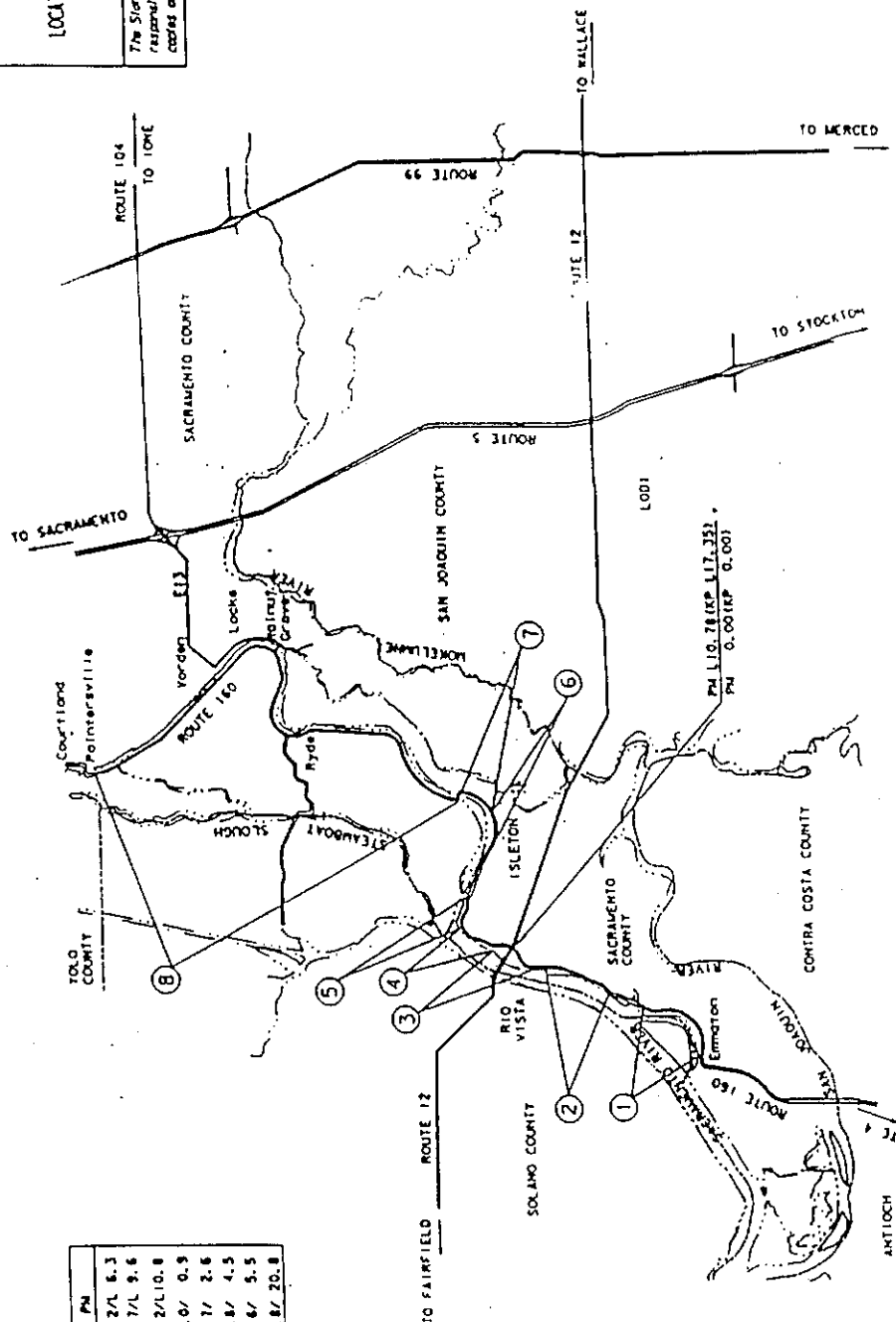
STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PROJECT PLANS FOR CONSTRUCTION ON STATE HIGHWAY IN SACRAMENTO COUNTY AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS FROM 10 km SOUTH OF ROUTE 12 TO PAINTERSVILLE BRIDGE

To be supplemented by Standard Plans dated July, 1995

INDEX OF SHEETS

WORK LOCATIONS

LOCATION	SP	PM
1	1.6/10.2	1.4/2.1 5.3
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3	1.6/4.1 17.4	1.0/2.1 10.8
4	6.0/ 1.5	0.6/ 0.9
5	2.7/ 4.2	1.7/ 2.6
6	6.1/ 7.2	3.8/ 4.5
7	7.4/ 8.9	4.6/ 5.5
8	9.3/ 33.5	5.8/ 20.8



The State of California or its officers or agents shall not be responsible for the accuracy or completeness of electronic copies of this plan sheet.



Project Engineer: [Signature]
Registered Civil Engineer
[Stamp]

Contract No. 03-447104
CU 03 385

ATTACHMENT A

The Contractor shall possess the Class (or classes) of license as specified in the "Notice to Contractors".